

**JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM**

AGENCY INFORMATION

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TO: SULLIVAN, W. C.
TITLE:

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RESTRICTIONS:

JFK Act 6 (4)

COMMENTS:

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 4-15-64

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

Presidents
Commission

(CLASSIFICATION
STAMP)

Tolson
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Gandy

On 4-15-64 Inspector Malley received a call from J. Lee Rankin in New York City. It will be noted that on 4-17-64 the Commission contemplates interrogating functionaries of the Communist Party (CP) in New York concerning their knowledge of Oswald. u

Mr. Rankin made reference to the report of Special Agent Thomas P. Estep dated 12-18-63 at Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Rankin noted that the report referred to a meeting which occurred at Wheeling, West Virginia, on 12-8-63. Mr. Rankin noted that the report was marked "Confidential" and he wanted to know if, in talking to CP people, it would be satisfactory for him to ask questions concerning the details of the meeting without interfering with any of our operations. u

The report in question contains information furnished by Confidential Informant (CI 104-S) who advised that Arnold Johnson of New York City, public relations man for the CP, gave a talk dealing with the assassination of President Kennedy. The information, while helpful, does not add anything of particular significance to the Oswald investigation and is generally self-serving to the CP. u

On 4-15-64 SAC Mason advised that at the particular meeting there were six other CP members present with Mr. Johnson. Three of these were symbol number informants of the Cincinnati Office. SAC Mason advised that these particular informants cover an area in West Virginia and Ohio where there is CP activity and, hence, these informants are valuable to the coverage of the CP establishment not only by the Cincinnati Office but by our Cleveland and Pittsburgh Offices. Furthermore, according to SAC Mason, the particular informant who reported the meeting, CI 104-S, is the only informant who is qualified to attend the State Board meetings of the Ohio CP. Mr. Mason noted that if Johnson is questioned concerning this meeting they will obviously check for a source and this could uncover one or all of the informants involved thereby seriously jeopardizing our coverage. (R) M

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. Lenihan

NOT RECORDED
199 MAY 4 1964

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